

Amendments to the Specification:

Amend the paragraph appearing at page 13, lines 17-31, as follows:

A respective comfortable cushioning portion including a grip cushioning layer 204 extends along each of the outer margins 206 of the shell layers 198 and 199 as a cushioning portion of each handle 32 and 34. The grip cushioning layer 204 is preferably made of a tough, yet resiliently soft and rubber-like thermoplastic elastomeric material such as those available from Advanced Elastomer Systems, of Akron, Ohio, under the trademark Santoprene®. A portion 207 of the comfortable grip cushioning layer also extends along and covers a portion of an outer face 208 of the shell portion 198. The grip cushioning layer portion 204 is preferably attached to the channel member 131 or 124 and the shell layer 198 or 199 by chemical bonding and adhesion resulting from the process of molding and by being shaped to interlock mechanically with the shell layer 198 at certain places. For example, openings may be provided in the side portions of the shell layer 198, and the side walls 134 and 196, to provide for mechanical interlocking, as shown in ~~FIGS. 21, 22, and 23~~ FIGS. 21, 22, and 23.